

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Claim 1-9 (cancelled)

Claim 10 (Amended): A method for screening for biologically active agents that modulate a phenomenon associated with hepatocellular carcinoma, the method comprising:

administering~~combinig~~ a candidate agent to~~with~~ a transgenic mouse~~mammal~~ having a genome comprising a stably integrated transgene encoding FGF19 operably linked to a promoter, wherein said transgene results in said mouse~~mammal~~ acquiring hepatocellular carcinoma, increased proliferation of pericentral hepatocytes as compared with a control non-transgenic mouse, or elevated levels of alpha-fetoprotein; and

determining the effect of said agent on the hepatocellular carcinoma, increased proliferation of pericentral hepatocytes as compared with a control non-transgenic mouse, or elevated levels of alpha-fetoprotein of said mouse~~mammal~~.

Claim 11 (Amended): A method for screening for biologically active agents that modulate a phenomenon associated with hepatocellular carcinoma, the method comprising:

administering~~combinig~~ a candidate agent to~~with~~ a transgenic mouse~~mammal~~ cell culture, each cell of said culture comprising a stably integrated transgene encoding FGF19 operably linked to a promoter, wherein said transgene results in said mouse~~mammal~~ acquiring hepatocellular carcinoma, increased proliferation of pericentral hepatocytes as compared with a control non-transgenic mouse, or elevated levels of alpha-fetoprotein; and

determining the effect of said agent on the transgenic mouse~~mammal~~ cell culture.

Claim 12 (New): The method of claim 10, wherein the FGF-19 is expressed in skeletal muscle.

Claim 13 (New): The method of claim 10, wherein the mouse acquires hepatocellular carcinoma.

Claim 14 (New): The method of claim 10, wherein the mouse acquires increased proliferation of pericentral hepatocytes as compared with a control non-transgenic mouse.

Claim 15 (New): The method of claim 10, wherein the mouse acquires elevated levels of alpha-fetoprotein.

Claim 16 (New): The method of claim 11, wherein the mouse acquires hepatocellular carcinoma.

Claim 17 (New): The method of claim 11, wherein the mouse acquires increased proliferation of pericentral hepatocytes as compared with a control non-transgenic mouse.

Claim 18 (New): The method of claim 11, wherein the mouse acquires elevated levels of alpha-fetoprotein.

Claim 19 (New): A method for screening for biologically active agents that modulate a phenomenon associated with hepatocellular carcinoma, the method comprising:

administering a candidate agent to a transgenic mouse-having a genome comprising a stably integrated transgene encoding FGF19 operably linked to a promoter, wherein said transgene results in said mouse acquiring a hepatic disorder; and

determining the effect of said agent on said hepatic disorder of said mouse.